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COR 1527 -1
Copy 5 of 6
9 Feb 62

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Staff Visit to the West Coast Facility

1. During the period 23. 24 January 1962 I visited Lt. Col. Murphy at [redacted] Palo Alto, California. It was a most productive session with the items listed below being discussed:

- a. Film Overlap Requirements
- b. Launch Limits
- c. Selection of Camera Slit Width
- d. Camera Program Designation
- e. Proper Exposure Illumination
- f. Additional Communications Facilities at STC
- g. Thin Based Film
- h. Transportation of "M" Tank
- i. Security Problems
- j. Headquarters Symposium

2. The following agreements were reached and are hereby made a matter of record:

a. Item 1.a. - Film Overlap Requirements:

- (1) [redacted] will not add a pad for latitude shifts.
- (2) [redacted] will add to "X" and "Y" programs to insure stereo at ON-OFF points for latitude shifts.
- (3) [redacted] will also add required minimum operate time required by camera operate system.

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(4) Pad for longitude shift will be included in camera ON-OFF program sent by []

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(5) [] will send ON-OFF program expressed in whole degrees of latitude rounded off to the outside limits.

(6) [] will identify flight lines of highest priority in paragraph F. of the []

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(7) [] will identify camera ON-OFF points near tangent points by latitude and longitude.

b. Item 1.b. - Launch Limits

(1) [] in the [] will advise broad launch limits base on vehicle, system, and/or recovery limits.

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(2) [] will send desired launch limits in [] These must be sent not later than Launch minus 14 days. The limits will be as broad as possible but not less than ninety minutes.

(3) [] has the authority to extend the launch if this action is required on launch day.

3. The following items were discussed and I recommend the following actions be approved:

a. Item 1.c. - Selection of Camera Slit Width:

(1) It is Col. Murphy's desire that he make the final selection of the slit width after the camera program has been approved. He can best make this decision after an over-all evaluation of the factors involved.

b. Item 1.d. - Camera Program Designations:

(1) To insure complete agreement throughout the program in designating the various terms used in camera programming various ideas were examined. After some discussion it was agreed that the designators finally selected would appear in the glossary of the new reports control manual. This action will guarantee that all interested parties are using the same designators whenever required.

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c. Item 1.e. - Proper Exposure Illumination:

(1) With the desire to add new inclination angles to the program the problem of correct exposure illumination must be given additional study if the greatest use of ascending and descending passes are to be made.

(2) A meeting between [redacted] myself, Mr. Landahl and his staff was held on 29 January 1962. It was agreed that an additional briefing would be held on 30 January to examine this problem in detail. This briefing was held with [redacted] of WPIC, in attendance. They requested additional time to study this problem.

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(3) On 5 February during a short visit of Lt. Colonel Murphy to Headquarters, [redacted] joined us in a discussion of this problem and an agreement of using seven degrees as a minimum and 15 degrees as the optimum sun angles for future mission planning was reached.

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d. Item 1.f. - Additional Communications Facilities at STC:

(1) Past thinking on this subject was reviewed with previous positions being maintained. The center of the problem rotates around the evaluation of the security risk against operational requirements. At this time a statement regarding the security risk (heavy, severe, moderate, or slight) is not available. Until this evaluation is made a trade off between it and the operational needs cannot be made. I therefore recommend the Security Branch provide an evaluation of the situation. Then a decision be made to install or cancel the plans for an additional communications facility at the STC.

4. The following items were discussed and are mentioned in order that the appropriate staff agencies can be cognizant of them:

a. Item 1.g. - Thin Based Film:

(1) The advantages of having the film supply

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increased from the present 7,600 feet to 11,000 feet through the use of thin base film was examined.

(2) If this film were made available in the near future, great additional capability would be available to the operator on CORONA missions.

b. Item 1.h. - Transportation of the "M" Take:

(1) Lt. Colonel Murphy is having two type containers built for the transportation of the "M" take because a clear decision from headquarters had not been received.

c. Item 1.i. - Security Problems:

(1) the security officer discussed the following items during the visit:

(a) The need for an additional agent during the summer months when the number of firings will place very heavy demands on his office.

(b) Copies of the Cover Story are not always available during a CORONA mission. Under emergency conditions they might be required.

d. Item 1.j. - Headquarters Symposium:

(1) A copy of the proposed agenda for a Symposium to be sponsored sometime in the future at headquarters was reviewed with Lockheed officials. The general feeling expressed is that this proposal falls short of the ideas expressed by Mr. Lundahl when he first presented it to Lt. Colonel Murphy and the undersigned several months ago. The headquarters proposal is more along the lines of a dog and pony show during which prime contractors will endeavor to solicit additional business. While there is a need for this type meeting plans for the more sophisticated symposium should be continued.

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5. In view of the great number of benefits achieved during this visit plans for additional meetings of a similar type, to be held approximately every two months, were agreed upon.

SIGNED

[Redacted Signature Box]

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